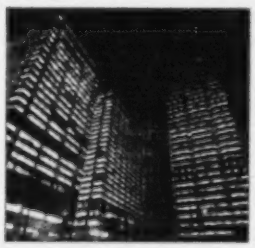
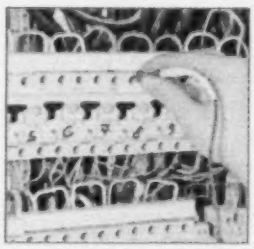
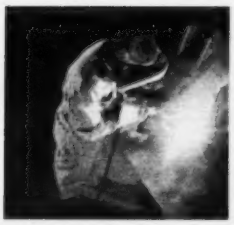
2012 Annual Alberta Labour Market Review

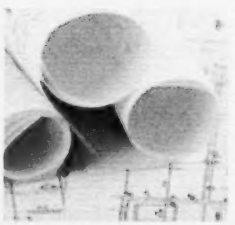




Employment • Unemployment • Economic Regions • Migration
Aboriginal People • Industries • Occupations • Education • Demographics

Alberta
Government





Employment

Alberta has the highest employment growth in the country

Alberta's employment in 2012 was 55,500 higher than in 2011. The province's total employment rose to 2,149,600 in 2012, a 2.7% increase from the level in 2011. Alberta had the highest annual growth rate of employment among the ten provinces in 2012. (See Figure 1) Employment in Canada rose 1.2% in 2012.

Employment for Alberta's men grew by 2.7% or 31,700, and for women, it rose by 2.5% or 23,800 in 2012. Alberta's men and women aged 25 to 44 years old accounted for the largest share of employment increase at 59.0% and 58.8% respectively. Employment growth of 13.7% for men aged 65 years and older was higher than the provincial rate of 2.7% in 2012.

In 2012, full time employment in Alberta increased by 64,000 while part-time employment declined by 8,600. However, Albertans 55 years and older saw higher levels of both full-time and part-time employment. Full-time employment for men 55 years and older increased by 8.6% or 14,700 and for women the same age, by 4.5% or 4,900.

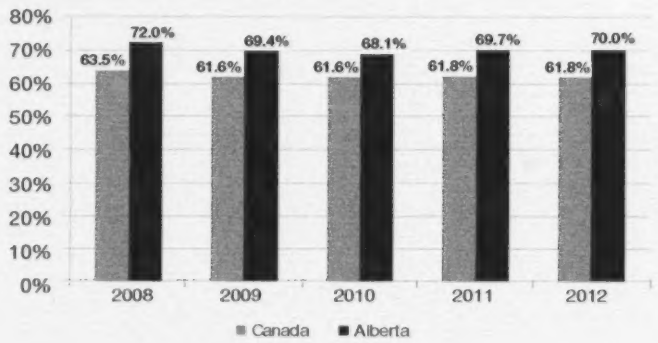
Figure 1

Provincial and National Employment, 2012

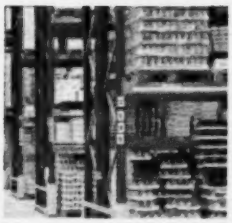
Province	Employment	Change from 2011	Per cent change
Alberta	2,149,600	55,500	2.7%
Newfoundland and Labrador	230,500	5,100	2.3%
Prince Edward Island	72,800	800	1.1%
Nova Scotia	455,500	2,700	0.6%
New Brunswick	351,400	-600	-0.2%
Quebec	3,984,400	30,800	0.8%
Ontario	6,783,700	52,400	0.8%
Manitoba	630,100	5,600	0.9%
Saskatchewan	537,100	11,200	2.1%
British Columbia	2,312,500	37,800	1.7%
Canada	17,507,700	201,500	1.2%

Figure 2

Alberta and Canada Employment Rates[1], 2008-2012



[1]The employment rates measures the portion of the working age population (15 years and older) who are employed.



Employment Rate in Alberta was the highest in Canada

In 2012, Alberta's employment rate of 70% continued to be the highest among all provinces. The Canadian employment rate was 61.8%. Alberta's rate of 70% was 0.3 percentage points higher than the year before, and 1.9 percentage points higher than in 2010. (See Figure 2)

The employment rates for Alberta men and women were 76% and 63.9% respectively, the highest among all provinces in 2012. The national employment rate was 65.8% for men and 57.9% for women.

At 73.4%, Alberta had the highest participation rate[2] in the country in 2012. The national participation rate was 66.7%. Alberta men's participation rate of 79.6% and women's rate of 67% were the highest among the ten provinces.

Employment in Alberta grew for the second consecutive year after declining in 2009 and 2010. (See Figure 3) Annual average employment rose by 77,500 in 2011 and by 55,500 in 2012. (See Figure 4)

Figure 3

Alberta Annual Average Growth in Employment, 2008-2012

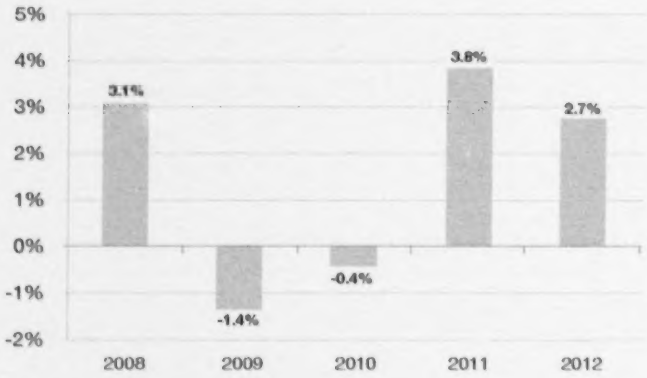
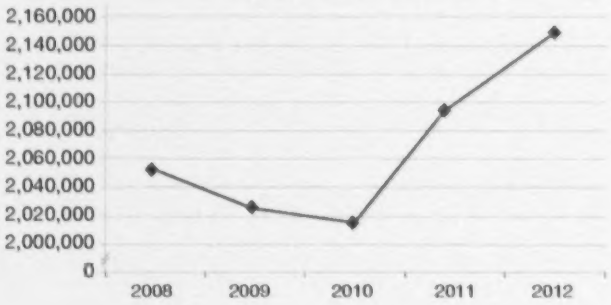


Figure 4

Alberta Annual Average Employment, 2008-2012



[2]The participation rates measures the number of people who are employed and unemployed out of the working age population (15+ years).

Source for charts: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Unemployment

Alberta has the lowest unemployment rate in the country

Alberta's unemployment rate in 2012 was the lowest of the ten provinces. (See Figure 5) Alberta's rate fell for the third straight year to 4.6%. (See Figure 6) The unemployment rate for Alberta's men fell to 4.5% from 5.6% in 2011. Alberta's and Saskatchewan's male unemployment rates, both at 4.5%, were the lowest of the ten provinces in 2012. Between 2011 and 2012, the unemployment rate for Alberta's women decreased to 4.7% from 5.3%. In 2012, Alberta's women had the lowest unemployment rate of the ten provinces.

The number of unemployed people in Alberta declined for the third consecutive year in 2012: falling by 1,400 in 2010, 19,700 in 2011, and by 17,200 in 2012. (See Figure 6) Male unemployment decreased by 12,500, and for females, by 4,600 in 2012, compared to the year before.

The unemployment rate for Alberta youths decreased to 8.9% from 10.7% in 2011, the lowest in all provinces. In 2012, Alberta's female youth unemployment rate of 8.3% was the lowest of all female youths in the country. Alberta's and Saskatchewan's male youths tied for the lowest unemployment rate in the country, at 9.5%.

Figure 5
Provincial and National Unemployment Rates, 2012

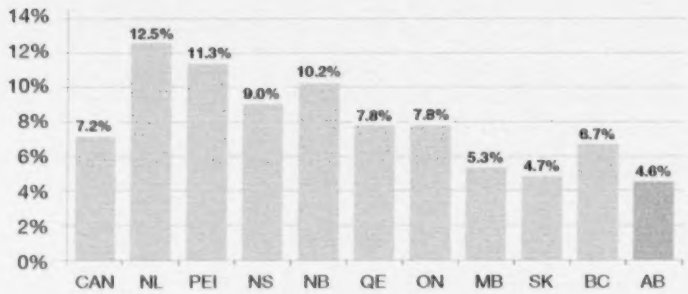
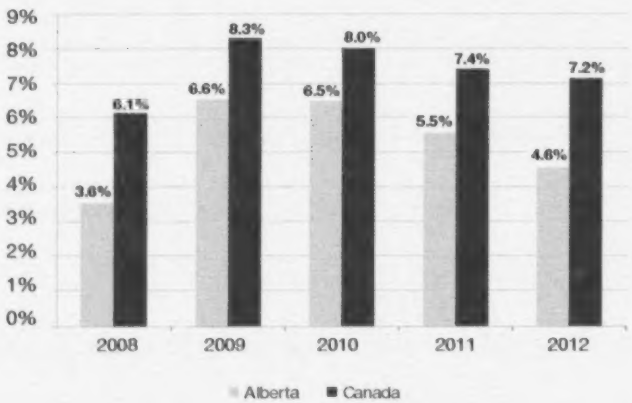
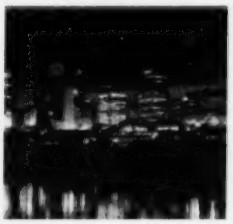


Figure 6
Alberta and Canada Unemployment Rates, 2008-2012



Source for charts: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey



Economic Regions

Unemployment rates in the Regions continued to fall

The unemployment rate fell in seven of the eight economic regions for the second consecutive year. In 2012, the unemployment rate decreased the most in the Athabasca-Grande Prairie-Peace River region, by 1.2 percentage points. (See Figure 7) Only one region, Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House, saw an increase of 0.5 percentage points to 3.9%.

At 3.7%, the unemployment rate in the Camrose-Drumheller region was the lowest of the eight regions in 2012. (See Figure 8) The Calgary and the Red Deer regions have the highest unemployment rate of 4.8%. However, Calgary also has the largest increase in employment, of 28,900 in 2012, followed by Edmonton with an increase of 24,100.

Employment rose in all but three regions: Camrose-Drumheller, Banff-Jasper-Rocky Mountain House, and Athabasca-Grande Prairie-Peace River. These three regions saw small declines in employment of 400, 1,000 and 2,900 respectively in 2012.

Figure 7

Economic Regions in Northern Alberta, Unemployment Rates in 2008-2012

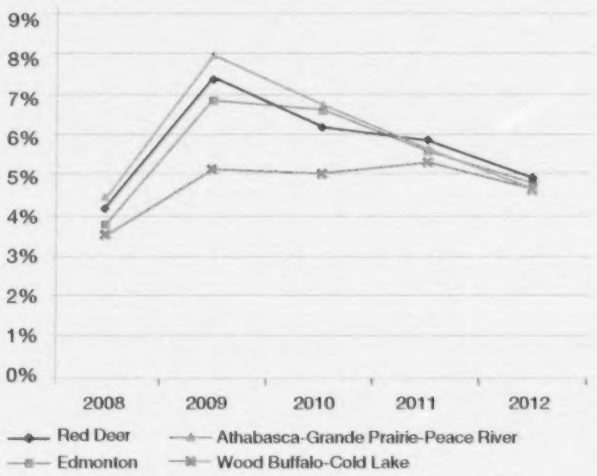
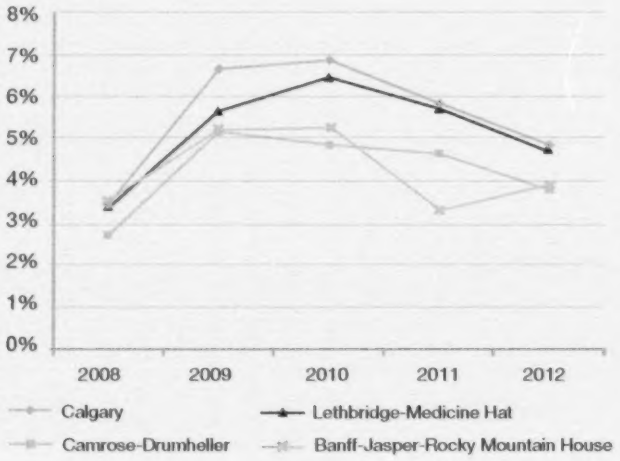


Figure 8

Economic Regions in Southern Alberta, Unemployment Rates in 2008-2012



Source for charts: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Migration

In-migration to Alberta outnumbered out-migration

In 2012, Alberta saw increases in the numbers of interprovincial in-migrants and temporary foreign workers, and landed immigrants compared to the year before. The number of net interprovincial migrants to Alberta from other provinces rose by 30,704 in 2012[3]. (See Figure 9)

The number of immigrants who landed in Alberta in 2012 was 4,801 persons more than the year before. This increase reversed a 5% decline in the year before. (See Figure 10)

The number of temporary foreign workers coming to Alberta rose for the second year in 2012 after declines in 2009 and 2010. Compared to 2011, the number of temporary foreign workers who came to Alberta increased by just over ten thousands in 2012.

Figure 9

Alberta Interprovincial Migration, 2008-2012

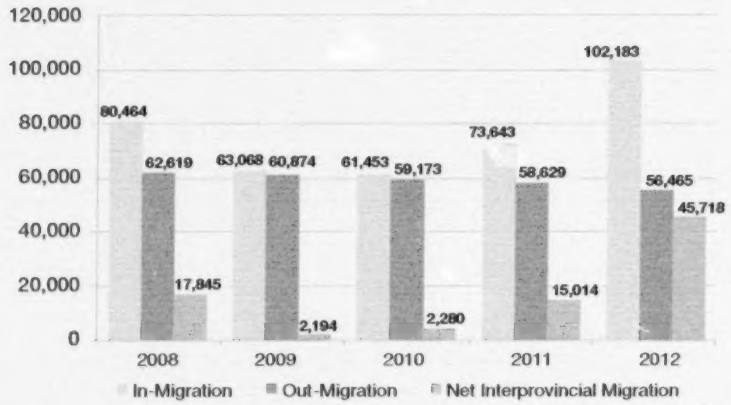
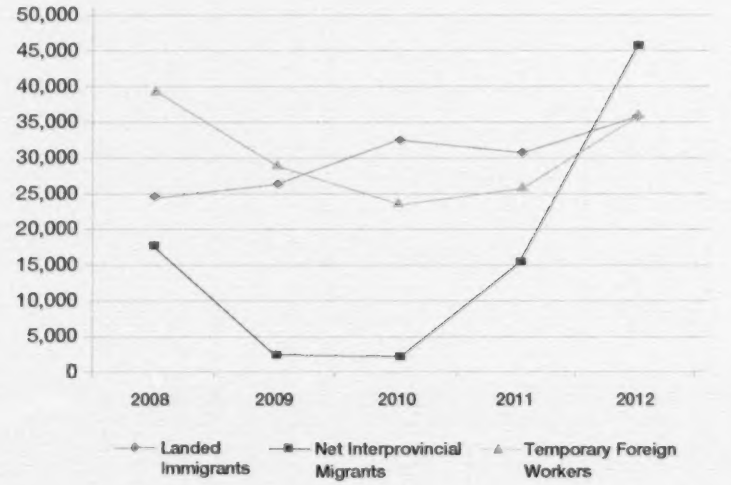


Figure 10

Alberta Landed Immigrants, Net Interprovincial Migrants, and Temporary Foreign Workers, 2008-2012



[3]Data is preliminary as of March 2013

Source for charts: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Aboriginal People

Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve had the highest employment rate in the country

In 2012, the employment rate of Alberta's off-reserve Aboriginal population was 61.8%, the highest employment rate of all off-reserve Aboriginal people in the ten provinces. The employment rate in Prince Edward Island, at 61.7%, was the second highest. The average employment rate for Aboriginal people living off-reserve in Canada was 56.9% in 2012.

Employment of Alberta's off-reserve Aboriginal people increased by 5.1% or 3,800 higher in 2012 than a year ago. This was the second highest increase of the ten provinces. Employment for off-reserve Aboriginal people in Canada rose by 3.2%.

More than 80% of all employed off-reserve Aboriginal people worked in four economic regions in Alberta: 59.7% in Calgary and Edmonton, and 21.6% in the Athabasca-Grande Prairie-Peace River and the Wood Buffalo-Cold Lake regions. (See Figure 11)

Between 2011 and 2012, employment gains for Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve occurred largely in two economic regions: Edmonton and Camrose-Drumheller, which saw increases of 2,500 and 900 respectively. Only one region, Athabasca-Grande Prairie-Peace River, had a decrease in employment of 600 for Aboriginal people living off-reserve.

More than 40% of Alberta's Aboriginal people living off-reserve was employed in three industries in 2012: Trade, 16.2%; Construction, 15.6%; and Health Care and Social Assistance, 11.4%.

Figure 11

Alberta Aboriginal People Living Off-Reserve, Employment by Economic Region, 2012

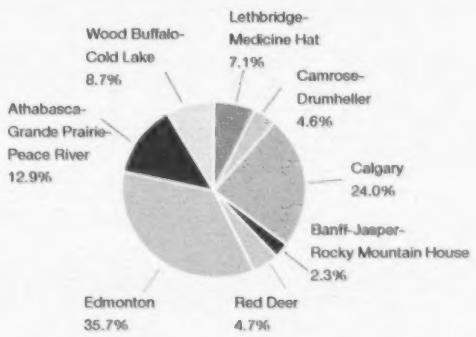
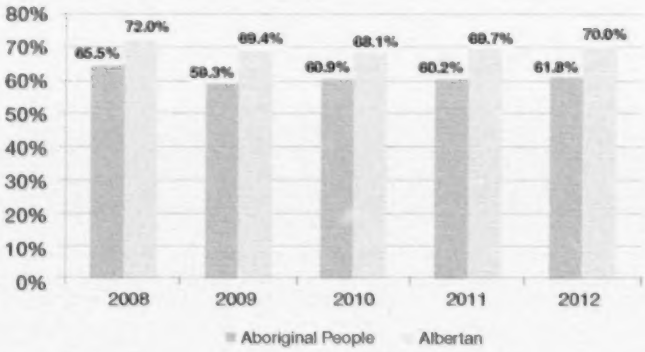


Figure 12

Alberta Aboriginal People Living Off-Reserve, Employment Rates, 2008-2012



Source for charts: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Industries

Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction Industry has the largest gain in employment

The Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction industry had the largest increase in employment in 2012, rising by 22,400. This increase accounted for 40.4% of all employment gains in Alberta that year. Construction had the second largest employment increase of 15,800, which represents 28.5% of all the provincial gains in employment in 2012. Employment in the Transportation and Warehousing industry rose by 9,100, accounting for 16.4% of all employment increases in the province. (See Figure 13)

Employment was lower in five industries in 2012: Wholesale Trade, down 9,200; Information, Culture and Recreation, down 7,800; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, down 5,600; Manufacturing, down 2,900; and Business, Building and Other Services, down 300.

The three industries with the lowest unemployment rate in 2012 were: Health Care and Social Assistance, 1.5%; Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing, 2.0%; and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, 2.2%.

Figure 13

Alberta Labour Force Statistics by Industry, 2012

Industry Group	2012 Employment	Change from 2011	Unemployment Rate
Retail Trade	239,900	8,500	3.6%
Health Care and Social Assistance	228,600	3,700	1.5%
Construction	226,600	15,800	5.0%
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	173,500	22,400	3.0%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	157,900	-5,600	2.2%
Manufacturing	138,500	-2,900	2.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	133,300	2,500	5.1%
Educational Services	128,900	1,500	2.9%
Transportation and Warehousing	116,400	9,100	2.4%
Other Services	106,300	1,200	2.7%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing	103,800	3,700	2.0%
Public Administration	88,600	3,800	*
Wholesale Trade	82,500	-9,200	3.1%
Business, Building and Other Support Services	72,900	-300	5.6%
Information, Culture and Recreation	71,100	-7,800	5.1%
Agriculture	56,200	4,400	*
Utilities	20,700	4,400	*
Forestry and Logging with Support Activities	3,700	300	*

**Insufficient Data*

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Occupations

Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations had the largest employment gain

In 2012, employment rose for six of the ten occupational groups in Alberta. The Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations had the biggest increase of 28,900, followed by Occupations unique to primary industry4 with an increase of 12,700. (See Figure 14)

Of the four occupational groups with decline in employment in 2012, the decreases were all below 4,000. These occupations were: Sales and service, down 3,600; Art, culture, recreation and sport, down 2,500; Occupations unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities, down 2,200; and Occupations in social science, education, government service and religion, down 1,900.

Unemployment rates for the ten occupational groups were all below 5% in 2012. Three of the ten occupational groups had unemployment rates that were less than 2%: Management, 1.1%; Health occupations, 1.3%; and Occupations in Social science, education, government service and religion, 1.8%.

Figure 14

Alberta Labour Force Statistics by Occupation, 2012

Occupations	2012 Employment	Change from 2011	Unemployment Rate
Management	161,600	5,000	1.1%
Business, finance and administrative	382,800	6,700	2.4%
Natural and applied sciences and related	177,000	4,200	2.5%
Health	132,800	8,000	1.3%
Social science, education, government service and religion	154,400	-1,900	1.8%
Art, culture, recreation and sport	45,200	-2,500	*
Sales and service	484,700	-3,600	4.0%
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related	418,600	28,900	4.4%
Unique to primary industry[4]	125,200	12,700	4.4%
Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities	67,200	-2,200	2.9%

**Insufficient data*

[4] Some examples of occupations included in this group are: Nursery greenhouse workers, Landscaping and ground maintenance labourers, Underground production and development miners, Chain saw and skidder operators, Farmers and farm managers, Logging and forestry labourers, and Fishing vessel deckhands.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Education

The proportion of Alberta's labour force with diplomas or degrees continues to rise

The proportion of the Alberta labour force that has attained diploma, certificate or degree went up from 85.1% in 2008 to 87.3% in 2012. (See Figure 15)

Between 2008 and 2012, the Alberta's labour force that had attained high school diploma increased by 11.1% or 54,300. This group comprised just under a quarter or 24.1%, of the Alberta's labour force in 2012. The number of Alberta's male and female labour force who had high school diplomas increased by 13.7% or 36,200 and 8.0% or 18,000 respectively between 2008 and 2012.

The Alberta's labour force that had attained post-secondary certificates or diplomas rose by 76,700 or 10.9% between 2008 and 2012. In 2012, this group made up 34.5% of Alberta's labour force. While the Alberta's labour force that had some post-secondary education fell by 33,700 or 18.6% over the 2008 to 2012 period. This group made up 8.5% of the Alberta's labour force in 2008, and by 2012, it was 6.6%.

In 2012, just under a quarter or 22.7% of Alberta's labour force had a University Bachelor's or Graduate degree, which is higher than the 21.6% in 2008. Of these, 46.9% were women in 2008; and in 2012, women made up 49.5% of the Alberta's labour force with a Bachelor's degree or a Graduate degree.

Figure 15

Alberta Labour Force Educational Attainment Trends, 2008-2012

Educational Level	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
0 to 8 Years	1.7%	1.6%	1.7%	1.6%	1.7%
Some Secondary	12.4%	11.4%	11.1%	10.7%	10.4%
High School Diploma	23.0%	22.6%	22.5%	23.4%	24.1%
Some Post-Secondary	8.5%	8.1%	7.9%	7.5%	6.6%
Post-Secondary Certificate or Diploma	32.9%	34.4%	34.8%	34.4%	34.5%
University: Bachelor's Degree	15.5%	16.2%	16.3%	16.4%	16.3%
University: Graduate Degree	6.1%	5.8%	5.7%	6.0%	6.4%

Source for charts: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Demographics

Employment rose for all age groups except youths

Employment in 2012, compared to 2011, was higher for the four age groups except for youths 15 to 24 years old. (See Figure 16) Of the four age groups, the 25 to 44 year olds had the largest employment increase of 32,700 or 3.4%. Albertans 65 years and over had the smallest employment increase of 6,600 and the highest employment growth rate of 9.7%, among the four age groups. Employment for youth 15 to 24 years of age decreased by 3,400 or 1.1% in 2012 compared to 2011.

The employment rate for youths 15 to 24 years of age fell 0.4 percentage points in 2012 compared to 2011. (See Figure 17) However, Alberta youths' employment rate of 62.3% was 7.8 percentage points above the rate for Canadian youths, at 54.5%. The employment rate for Alberta's youths was the second highest of the ten provinces, after Saskatchewan's rate of 62.4%.

The employment rate for Albertans aged 25 to 44 years old was 84.3% in 2012, the highest of the ten provinces. The employment rate for Canadians in this age group was 81.6%. At 18.4%, Albertans aged 65 years and over had the highest employment rate among their provincial counterparts. The national employment rate for the same age group was 12.0% in 2012.

Figure 16
Alberta Employment by Age Groups, 2011-2012

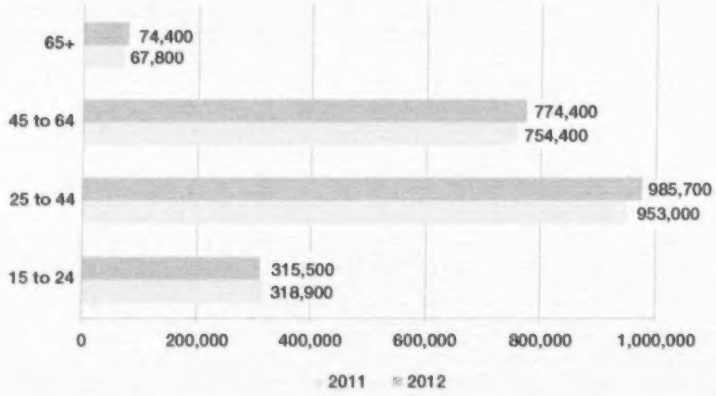
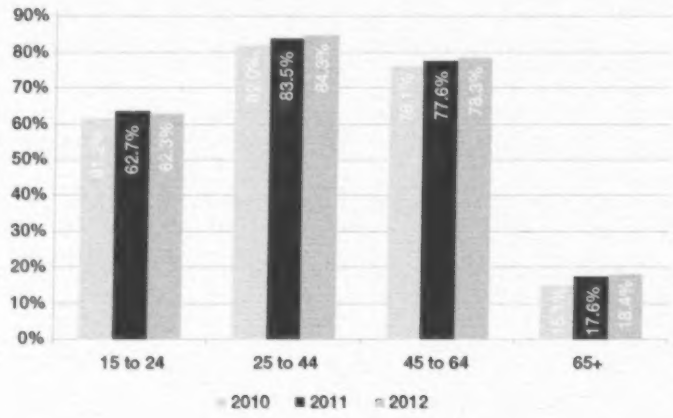


Figure 17
Alberta Employment Rates by Age Groups, 2010-2012



Source for charts: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

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